REMARKS

The Office imposed a restriction requirement consisting of groups and subgroups of inventions. To respond to the requirement, Applicants elect the method of use under group II at paragraph 1, treatment of inflammation, which is recited in amended claim 50. In the original claims, group II covered original claims 32-50. Applicants further elect compounds that correspond approximately to the compounds in group I under paragraph 2, but with the following proviso. The scope of compounds recited in claim 50 for the the R^7, R^8 and R^9 variable groups is as follows:

R^7 is $-CH_2-$ or $-CHR^{10}-$;

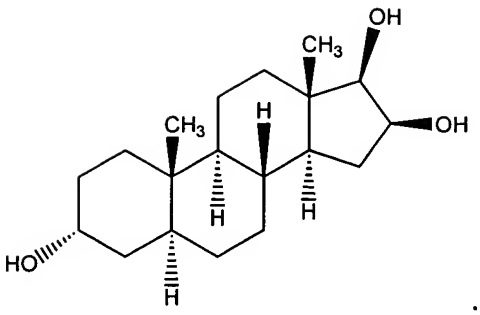
R^8 is $-CH_2-$, -O- or -NH-;

R^9 is $-CH_2-$, $-CHR^{10}-$, -O- or -NH-; and

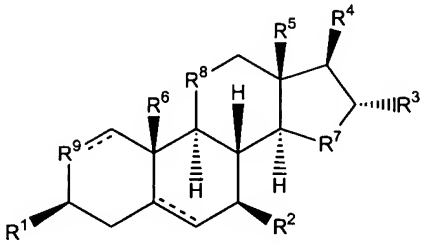
R^{10} independently are -OH, an ester, an ether, -SH, a thioester, a thioether or a halogen.

Applicants request the Office to consider modifying the group I compounds at paragraph 2 to correspond with this compound scope, which is now presented at new claim 50. The proposed groups I through VIII at paragraph 2 of the Office action do not allow for selection of this group of moieties at the R^7, R^8 and R^9 variable groups. At this point, the scope of the restriction is not definite and Applicants wish to cooperate with the Office to advance prosecution. However, they reserve their right to traverse the restriction if agreement on a suitable compound scope and scope of use can not be reached.

At paragraphs 3 and 5, the Office requested Applicants to specify (1) a specific inflammation condition if they elected treatment of inflammation and (2) a specific compound. To comply with these requirements, Applicants elect treatment of inflammation associated with asthma and the compound 3α,16β,17β-trihydroxy-5α-androstane, which has the structure



Written description support is present in the specification for the amended and new claims. To facilitate the Office's written description review, a list of exemplary written description support follows for the amended and new claims.

Claim	Support
50, 68, 70	support for the R^1, R^2, R^3 and R^4 β, β, α, β compound structure  is at compound group 1 at paragraphs 157-158 and embodiment 3 at paragraph 364, etc.;
50, 68, 72	α, β, α, β structure - compound group 37 at paragraph 202 and embodiment 6A at paragraph 443, etc.;
50, 62, 68, 69	β, β, β, β structure - compound group 38 at paragraph 203 and embodiment 9A at paragraph 446, etc.;
50, 62, 68, 71	α, β, α, α structure - embodiment 6A at paragraph 443, etc.;
66, 73	named tetrahydroxyl substituted compounds: 3β,7β,16α,17β-tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene is compound 1.2.6.2 in group 2 at paragraph 159; 3α,7β,16α,17β-tetrahydroxyandrost-5-ene is compound 1.2.6.2 in group 37 at paragraph 202; 3β,7β,16α,17β-tetrahydroxyandrost-1,5-diene is compound 1.2.6.2 in group 3 at paragraph 160; etc.

Claim	Support
66, 67 73	named trisubstituted compounds: 3β,16α,17β-trihydroxy-5α-androstane is compound 1.1.6.2 in group 1 at paragraphs 156 and 157; 3α,16β,17β-trihydroxy-5α-androstane is compound 1.1.6.2 in group 37 at paragraph 202, etc.
57, 61	support for atopic asthma and other listed inflammation conditions is at paragraphs 319, 526, etc.
68	support for formulations comprising one or more excipients is at paragraph 271, etc.
74, 75 76	support for parenteral, oral, buccal, sublingual, aerosol formulations is at paragraphs 271-273, etc.
75	support for non-aqueous formulations containing less than 0.3% v/v water is at paragraph 366, etc.; support for suspension in an aqueous liquid formulation is at paragraph 273, etc.

Please charge any additional fees, incuding any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 501536.

Respectfully submitted,

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